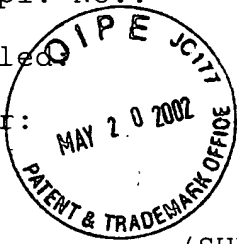


PATENT
0216-0438P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KATO et al. Conf.: Unknown
Appl. No.: 10/049,863 Group: Unknown
Filed: February 19, 2002 Examiner: Unknown
For: POLYETHER ESTER ELASTOMER



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION
BUT BEFORE FINAL REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE
OR CONCURRENTLY WITH A RULE 53(d) CPA APPLICATION
OR WITH A RULE 1.114 RCE APPLICATION)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

May 20, 2002
(Monday)

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-1449(s), attached hereto.

II. COPIES (check at least one box)

- a. ☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- b. ☐ Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should already be in the PTO file. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

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III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE
(check at least one box)

a. ☒ **DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. ☒ **DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

References (1) to (3) and (8) are Japanese patent documents, and English abstracts of references (1) to (3) and (8) are attached thereto.

c. ☐ **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT**

An English language version of the search report ~~or action that indicates the degree of relevance~~ found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

d. ☒ **OTHER**

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

References (1) and (2) are cited in the International Search Report. An English translation of the International Search Report is attached hereto.

Reference (3) is described at page 3, lines 12 to 18 of the present specification.

Reference (4) corresponds to Unexamined Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open Specification No. 54-158497 which is described at page 3, lines 12 to 18 of the present specification.

Reference (5) is described at page 3, lines 19 to 22; and page 3, line 22 to page 4 line 4 of the present specification.

Reference (6) is described at page 3, line 22 to page 4, line 4 of the present specification.

d. ☒ **OTHER cont'd**

Reference (7) is described at page 4, lines 4 to 9, lines 15 to 20, and lines 20 to 24; and page 32, lines 19 to 24 of the present specification.

Reference (8) is described at page 4, lines 9 to 12 of the present specification.

Reference (9) discloses a process for narrowing the molecular weight distribution of polytetrahydrofuran.

FEES

IV. ☒ THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b):
(check one box)

- a. ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or statement is required. (This section is ~~not to be used with RCE's and CPA's~~).
-
- b. ☒ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or statement is required.
- c. ☐ concurrently with the filing of a Continued Prosecution Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) or concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)). No fee or statement is required.
- d. ☐ before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or statement is required.
In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no statement has been made, charge our deposit account in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

- V. ☐ THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):
(check one box)

before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2)).

- a. ☐ No statement; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
or
b. ☐ See the statement below. No fee is required.

- VI. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that

- a. ☐ each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application ~~not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or~~
- b. ☐ no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.
- c. ☐ Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check one box)

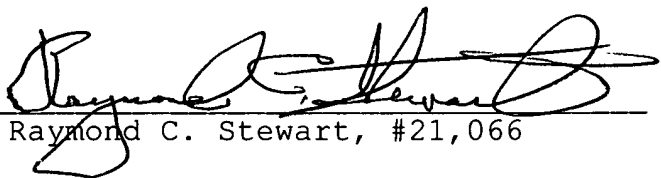
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed for the above-identified fee.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for the above-indicated fee. A triplicate copy of this paper is attached.
- ☒ No fee is required.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

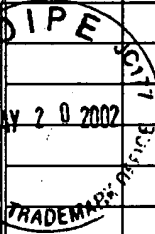
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Raymond C. Stewart, #21,066

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

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0216-0438P

Enclosures: ☒ PTO-1449
☒ Documents
☒ Foreign Search Report
☐ Fee
☐ Other:

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 0216-0438P		APPLICATION NO. 10/049,863		
		APPLICANT KATO et al.				
		FILING DATE February 19, 2002		GROUP Unknown		
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,251,652	2/17/1981	Tanaka et al.			
	4,568,775	2/4/1986	Aoshima et al.			
	4,658,065	4/14/1987	Aoshima et al.			
	4,677,231	6/30/1987	Aoshima et al.			
	4,670,519	6/2/1987	Mueller			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	3-249211	11/7/1991	Japan			Abs
	60-53531	3/27/1985	Japan			Abs
	60-55027	3/29/1985	Japan			Abs
	60-108424	6/13/1985	Japan			Abs
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			
<small>EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>						

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